

REMARKS


Applicant has carefully reviewed the Office communication mailed May 1, 2006. In that Office communication, the Office indicated that the amendment submitted on April 6, 2006, failed to provide corrective action required by the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed March 6, 2006. Specifically, the Office indicated that the status identifier associated with claims 47, 50, 51, 53, 55, and 57-59 was inconsistent with the previous response.

Applicant believes that the status identifiers associated with the above claims were correct because the previous response was not entered. Accordingly, as of the amendment submitted on April 6, 2006, these claims were “new.” However, in response to the present notice, Applicant has submitted an amendment showing these claims as “previously presented.” This amendment also has markings to show changes relative to the claims as they existed before the substantive Office action mailed June 7, 2005, and as required by the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed March 6, 2006.

Further, Applicant continues to identify claims 1-13, 18-33, 38-40, 42, 44, 46-47, 50, 51, 53, 55, and 57-59, as readable on species I and has withdrawn the remaining claims from consideration. Applicant again notes that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which include all the limitations of the allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. Accordingly, Applicant must be allowed the opportunity to enter these claims, even if they are withdrawn until the allowance of a generic claim.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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Stacy Bickel  
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